

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08049.0010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Oscar L. AVANT et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2876
)	
Application No.: 09/651,323)	Examiner: Ahshik KIM
)	
Filed: August 31, 2000)	Confirmation No.: 3894
)	
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR)	
IDENTIFYING A MAILPIECE USING AN)	
IDENTIFICATION CODE)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine

that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law,
Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding
the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the
patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of
the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 18, 2004

By: 
Jiff E. DeMello
Reg. No. 42,477

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08049.0010	Appln. No.	09/651,323
Applicant	Oscar L. AVANT et al.		
Filing Date	August 31, 2000	Group:	2876

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	2,709,001	05/1955	Stahl			
	2,719,629	10/1955	Robinson			
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	3,781,800	12/1973	Cramer et al.			
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	4,119,194	10/1978	Freeman et al.			
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

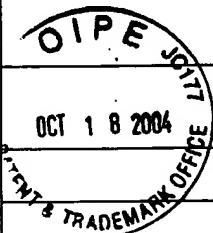
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Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
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	5,143,225	09/1992	Rabindran et al.			
	5,198,655	03/1993	Suetsugu et al.			
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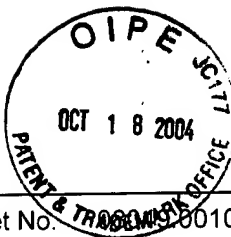
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	6,674,038	01/2004	Latta			
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	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
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	529966	03/1993	EPO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0069187, Barnum et al., published June 2002.
	U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0122569, Coffelt et al., published September 2002.
	Brandt et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Processing Mailpiece Information in a Mail Processing Device Using Sorter Application Software," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,275, filed August 31, 2000.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Processing Mailpiece Information by an Identification Code Server," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,707, filed August 31, 2000.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Reading an Identification Code From a Mailpiece," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,708, filed August 31, 2000.
	Avant et al., "Apparatus and Methods for Identifying and Processing Mail Using an Identification Code," Pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/652,709, filed August 31, 2000.



OMB No. 0651-0011

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Examiner	Date Considered		
*Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce		